

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

Claim 1. - 20. (Cancelled)

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) A laminating apparatus for laminating with protecting film a hologram recording medium on which a holographic image is exposed and recorded, the apparatus comprising:

a film retaining means and supplying section for retaining a plurality of folded pieces of said protecting film, wherein each piece of said protecting film is folded in half along a fold line;

~~supplying means~~ and for supplying one by one said plurality of pieces of said folded protecting film retained by said film retaining ~~means and supplying section~~, each piece being folded in half;

a film opening and closing means section for opening a single folded piece of said protecting film at an edge opposite said fold line; and

a mounting means section for mounting a piece of the hologram recording medium in the opened folded piece of protecting film and thereafter said film opening and closing ~~means section~~ closes said opened folded piece of protecting film; and

heat and pressure-bonding ~~means~~ rollers for heating and

pressure-bonding said folded piece of protecting film having been closed by said film opening and closing ~~means~~ section, wherein said hologram recording medium is sandwiched by said protecting film.

Claim 22. (Canceled)

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) The laminating apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a mounting retaining means and supplying section for retaining a plurality of mounting sheets, and

~~mounting-supplying means~~ for supplying one by one said plurality of mounting sheets retained by said mounting retaining means and supplying section onto said single folded piece of protecting film having been opened by said film opening and closing ~~means~~ section, wherein

said heating and pressure-bonding ~~means heats~~ rollers heat and pressure-bonds bond said folded piece of protecting film folded along said fold line and said hologram recording medium sandwiched by said protecting film.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended) The laminating apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising:

~~transferring means~~ a conveying section for transferring a piece of said hologram recording medium to said mounting sheet provided by said mounting ~~supplying means~~ retaining and supplying section onto a sheet of said protecting film opened along said

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fold line by said film opening and closing ~~means~~ section.

Claim 25- 31. (Cancelled)